Awards Relay a Relentless Drive for the Story

EVENT RECAP: APRIL 25

by Aimee Vitruk

The OPC honored the best in international reporting from 2011 on April 25. Guests gathered at the pre-party sponsored by Lenovo on the 35th floor at the Mandarin Oriental in New York and circulated among the two bars along the panoramic window that overlooks Central Park. The second bar was new this year and tripled the ordering areas for a crowd that bore witness to the past year to the Arab Spring, a trio of disasters in Japan and far too many deaths among its ranks.

Bells soon rang to usher guests into the ballroom where OPC President David A. Andelman welcomed everyone and introduced this year’s dinner co-chair Sir Harold Evans. Evans spoke about the ever-urgent need for vigilance in journalism against a backdrop of incredible events throughout the world and the dangers involved to cover them.

As dessert was being served, awards chairman and OPC Second Vice President Michael Serrill said that the 88 judges who selected winners had a daunting task as there was a near-record of 520 entries with a majority of entries featuring words and images from the uprisings in Arab Spring and the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disasters in Japan. This year the judges awarded a series and a segment on Colombia from that series with The Edward R. Murrow Award and The Robert Spiers Benjamin Award to Thirteen/WNET and Fork Films for its “War, Women and Peace,” which looked

EVENT RECAP: MAY 1

by Tom Squitieri and Larry Martz

The Obama Administration is the most aggressive in history in pursuing those who leak key information to reporters — even if that material is not as “top secret” as the White House contends, an OPC panel of two distinguished writers and a former Justice Department spokesman agreed in a dramatic discussion of the crusade against leaks of government secrets. But the result is a threat to America’s First Amendment rights, the writers warned.

The OPC joined with the National Press Club for the first time to sponsor the event. The discussion, moderated by OPC president David Andelman at the NPC headquarters in Washington D.C., featured James Risen of The New York Times, who has repeatedly been subpoenaed to testify against an accused leaker; James Bamford, author of The Puzzle Palace, the authoritative book about the National Security Agency; and Matthew Miller, who served as the Justice Department’s public affairs director for the Administration’s first two years. They were joined by a cantankerous audience.

All the panelists agreed with Risen’s observation that “we can’t have a democracy without aggressive reporting.” They also agreed that the system of classifying documents as “secret” or “top secret” was haphazard, dated and ineffective.

Miller, at the Justice Department (Continued on Page 14)
President’s Letter

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — 80 degrees this morning en route to 103, sunny with no sandstorms on the horizon, just another day in Paradise. My first stop with the Gatekeeper Editors of the International Reporting Project after our overwhelming OPC Awards gala, a sharp blow on my arrival here was news that one of our OPC members, Melissa K. Chan, Beijing bureau chief of Al Jazeera English, had been expelled from China. According to Al Jazeera, the Chinese government expressed “unhappiness” with the general editorial content on Al Jazeera-English and her participation on a documentary about China and Asia from his post in Singapore.

Perhaps the most moving tribute to the best among us comes from Peter Osnos, himself a brilliant foreign correspondent turned book publisher, whose son Evan was a winner this year. Writing in The Atlantic Online, Peter observed: “Sitting in the audience as each recipient came forward and as their work was described, I grew impressed with the range and quality of the stories honored and with how many organizations were represented.”

In these perilous times, this says it all. There’s a baker’s dozen of us along on this two-week trip to Saudi Arabia, including OPC Third Vice President Arlene Getz, and each represents a news organization that maintains a commitment to news and commentary. Nothing could be more gratifying to someone, like myself, who’s been committed to the craft for nearly four decades.

My term as OPC President is drawing to a close and while I have so many priorities still left, I believe we’ve already had many successes like the campaigns for press freedom, rewarding unparalleled accomplishment in an ever-growing list of categories to include more online media with the OPC awards, mourning and commemorating all too many among us who have fallen in the pursuit of knowledge, understanding and excellence. Still, it has been a privilege to lead, even for the narrowest slice of its history, an organization approaching its 75th anniversary of celebrating the best and supporting all of us who chronicle the world in all its amazing variety.

David A. Andelman

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OPC Bulletin • MAY 2012 • Page 2
2011 Awards and Winners

HAL BOYLE AWARD
Best newspaper or news service reporting from abroad
C.J. Chivers
The New York Times
“War Reports from Libya and Afghanistan”

BOB CONSIDINE AWARD
Best newspaper or news service interpretation of international affairs
Marcus Walker, Charles Forelle, Matthew Karnitschnig, David Enrich, Stacy Meichtry, Brian Blackstone, David Gauthier-Villars, Gordon Fairclough
The Wall Street Journal
“European Disunion”

ROBERT CAPA GOLD MEDAL AWARD
Best published photographic reporting from abroad requiring exceptional courage and enterprise
André Liohn
European Pressphoto Agency, Prospekt Photographers for Newsweek
“Almost Dawn in Libya”

OLIVIER REBBOT AWARD
Best photographic reporting from abroad in magazines or books
David Guttenfelder
The Associated Press for National Geographic
“The Zone”

JOHN FABER AWARD
Best photographic reporting from abroad in newspapers or news services
Pete Muller
The Associated Press
“Battling Impunity: The Fight Against Mass Rape in Eastern Congo”

FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD
Best feature photography published in any medium on an international theme
David Guttenfelder
The Associated Press
“Inside a Closed Society: Daily Life in North Korea”

LOWELL THOMAS AWARD
Best radio news or interpretation of international affairs
Lourdes Garcia-Navarro, Loren Jenkins, Douglas Roberts, Jonathan Blakely, Sean Carberry, Grant Clarke, Nishant Dahiya, J.J. Sutherland
National Public Radio
“Arab Spring”

DAVID KAPLAN AWARD
Best TV spot news reporting from abroad
Christiane Amanpour, Katie Hinman, Bartley Price, Nasser Atta, Jeanmarie Condon
ABC News
“Arab Spring – Cairo to Tripoli”

EDWARD R. MURROW AWARD
Best TV interpretation or documentary on international affairs
Abigail E. Disney, Pamela Hogan, Gini Reticker, Nina Chaudry, Peter Bull, Claudia Rizzi, Oriana Zill de Granados, Johanna Hamilton
Thirteen/WNET and Fork Films
“Women, War & Peace”

ED CUNNINGHAM AWARD
Best magazine reporting from abroad
Charles Graeber
Bloomberg Businessweek
“Nothing To Do But Start Again”

THOMAS NAST AWARD
Best cartoons on international affairs
Patrick Chappatte
International Herald Tribune

MORTON FRANK AWARD
Best international business reporting in magazines
Daniel Golden
Bloomberg Businessweek
“New Oriental Cracks the SAT Code”

MALCOLM FORBES AWARD
Best international business reporting in newspapers or news services
Paul Sonne, Steve Stocklow, Farnaz Fassih, Margaret Coker, Loretta Chao, Christopher Rhoads, Matt Bradley, Jennifer Valentino-DeVries, Nour Malas, Don Clark
The Wall Street Journal
“Censorship Inc.”

CARL SPIELVOGEL AWARD
Best international business news reporting in the broadcast media or online
Christof Putzel, Jeff Plunkett, Alex Simmons
Current TV
“Sex, Lies and Cigarettes”

CORNELIUS RYAN AWARD
Best non-fiction book on international affairs
Robin Wright
Simon & Schuster
“Rock the Casbah: Rage and Rebellion Across the Islamic World”

MADELINE DANE ROSS AWARD
Best international reporting in the print medium showing a concern for the human condition
Andrew Higgins and Aaron Harlan
The Washington Post
“Disaster in Japan”

DAVID A. ANDELMAN and PAMELA TITLE AWARD
Best reporting in any medium that provides new insights into an event or trend of international significance
Jessica Velmans, Kerry Smith
ABC News
“The Invisible Army”

JOE and LAURIE DINE MULTIMEDIA AWARD
Best reporting in any medium showing a concern for the human condition
Abigail E. Disney, Pamela Hogan, Gini Reticker, Nina Chaudry, Oriana Zill de Granados, Kristin Huntley, Jennifer Janisch, Lena Shemel, Juan Carlos Thirteen/WNET and Fork Films
“The War We Are Living” from “Women, War & Peace”

GENERAL EXCELLENCE ONLINE AWARD
Best overall international coverage on a website
Staff of Foreign Policy
foreignpolicy.com

BEST ONLINE COVERAGE OF BREAKING NEWS
Best online coverage, including Tweets, throughout a 72 hour period of a breaking news event
GlobalPost Staff
“The Libyan Rebellion”

BEST USE OF ONLINE MULTIMEDIA
Best use of interactive graphics to report on international news
CFR.org and MediaStorm
Council on Foreign Relations
“Crisis Guide: Iran”

BEST ONLINE INVESTIGATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL ISSUE OR EVENT
Best reporting that provides new insights into an event or trend of international significance
Vanessa Houlder, Megan Murphy, Benjamin Freese, Johanna Kassel, Christine Spolar (Financial Times); Jeff Gerth and Tom Detzel (ProPublica)
Financial Times and ProPublica
“Tax Wars: A Cross-Border Battle Worth Billions”

BEST USE OF ONLINE VIDEO
Excellence in original video on an international topic created specifically for a news website
Maisie Crow and Jesse Dukes
Virginia Quarterly Review
“Half-Lives: The Chernobyl Workers Today”

BEST ONLINE COMMENTARY
Best international affairs commentary or blog
Nicholas D. Kristof, Adam B. Ellick, Sean Patrick Farrell, Jaron Gilinsky
The New York Times
“A Year Through a Kaleidoscope: The Arab Spring”
Conversation, anticipation and a few hundred well-dressed people filled the double-height, window-walled space overlooking Central Park on the 35th floor of the Mandarin Oriental at the cocktail reception before OPC’s Annual Awards Dinner.

“For an industry that is supposedly dying, this crowd looks pretty good,” said Rosalind Massow, who has attended many of these evenings.

Felice Levin, Massow’s fellow OPC Foundation board member, said she prefers the opening reception to the event that follows the dinner. Why? The night is young and “people are lively and ready to party,” she said.

To many, the Awards Dinner prelude is familiar. Talk and drinks flow. It’s a time to greet and catch up with friends, colleagues and competitors, including some who traveled a great distance to attend. Even if you don’t know someone, you may recognize their name and find people or places in common.

Some, however, came with new eyes.

Teri Whitcraft, a senior producer for ABC News, had a supply of business cards and no trouble walking up to strangers. She said she was thrilled to be at her first OPC event, especially since she and her colleagues were there to celebrate winning the David A. Andelman and Pamela Title Award with “Giving Life: A Risky Proposition.”

Daniel Goldman, an editor-at-large for Bloomberg Businessweek, stood at an edge of the crowd, watching. He had won the Morton Frank Award for “New Oriental Cracks the SAT Code.” He described his story and said he wasn’t sure what to expect from the night, and then he spotted his wife and was off.

Lenovo created personalized tributes to winners by printing their text and photos on large cubes that punctuated the room. Lenovo, a first-time supporter of the OPC, also had a patron table at the dinner and gave each winner a U300 IdeaPad.
Guests enjoying the OPC after party.

André Liohn celebrates his win with a friend.

From left, Bob Dowling and OPC Second Vice President and Awards Chairman Michael Serrill.

Former OPC Presidents Larry Martz, left, and dinner Co-Chairman Bill Holstein flank Rita Sevell.

Global Parachute team from left: Allan Dodds Frank, Calvin Sims, Marjorie Baptiste, Aimee Vitrak and Susan Kille.

From left: Gordon Crrovitz, Daniele Knowles and OPC Board Member and Dateline Editor Tim Ferguson.

A Toast to the Winners and Colleagues After the Dinner

The “Meet the Winners” after-party sponsored by Thomson Reuters was a huge success with people spilling out of the Ballroom after the Awards Dinner. Many stayed to see old friends and colleagues and to have one more beverage (read champagne). The tab was entirely on Thomson Reuters who served drinks to a still-thirsty crowd until the wee hours of the morning. The company also set up a loop of their photographers best work from 2011 presented on a large-screen television monitor.

After the pre-party, dinner and acceptance speeches, it was time for people to let their hair down, or in the case of many of the women, kick off those heels. You could hear the sigh of relief from Charles Graeber, a contributor to Bloomberg Businessweek, who said he was enjoying the after-party because he no longer had to be nervous about what he was going to say on stage when he accepted the Ed Cunningham Award for “Nothing To Do But Start Over Again.” Graeber said he believes many writers have stage fright.

Off to the side of the room, OPC interns Rixey Browning and Marissa Miller (who live Tweeted the event, #opcofamerica) gave party goers an overview of the OPC’s latest website, opcglobalparachute.org, on display by Lenovo’s latest desktop computer. Across the room, Lenovo distributed its laptop to award winners. The laptops came in cardboard carrying cases that alerted party-goers as to who the winners were.
OPC Awards Dinner: Continued From Page 1

at the role of women in six conflicts around the globe. Also unusual was a photographer winning two awards and one citation for different works: Associated Press photographer David Guttenfelder took home The Olivier Rebbot Award for photos taken in Japan in its closed-off nuclear exclusion zone, the Feature Photography Award for photographs of daily life in North Korea, and a John Faber Award citation for Japan earthquake and tsunami aftermath photos.

C.J. Chivers accepted the Hal Boyle Award for war reporting from Libya and Afghanistan for *The New York Times*. He relayed a story when he and photographer Tyler Hicks were leaving Afghanistan and were trading off coverage with Joao Silva. They had said their goodbyes and he headed home for a brief visit with his wife and five children. He was driving between sports events with his four-year-old son and received news that Silva stepped on a landmine and lost both legs. He pulled the car over and exhaled, his son had only heard half of the phone conversations and asked, “how is Joao? What can we do? What did your friend step on?” As if what Silva had stepped on were something as ordinary as a “bottle cap.” His son came to understand the very real dangers associated with what Chivers does for a living and on a subsequent visit home asked, “how come you don’t get hurt?” Chivers said, “It’s an acute embarrassment to win an award with just your name on it. We don’t do any of this alone. Every step I make is made in consultation with photographers, editors. This award is a reflection of something much larger than me.”

Seconding the dangers of being a journalist was the Robert Capa Gold Medal Award winner André Liohn for photos from the besieged Libyan city of Misrata. He said that one year ago he was in Misrata with Marie Colvin and they had shared a near-death experience. “I’m lucky,” she said and quickly changed the subject with “Let’s do pasta!” She later asked him how old he was, and he said, 35, almost 40, which drew laughter from the crowd. “There is no other way for people like us,” she said.

Christiane Amanpour and her ABC News team won the David Kaplan Award for spot news reporting for Arab Spring, which was the first OPC Award for veteran journalist Amanpour. She relayed a story about how she and Marie Colvin were the last journalists to interview Col. Muammar el-Qaddafi. “It’s not often that people get interviews together and agree to share and we did it and we sat together and we were very happy to do it,” she said. “We were two journalists getting a great scoop and not being jealous or possessive about it.” She said the cash prize for the award will be donated to The Marie Colvin Center for International Reporting at Stonybrook.

Ted Turner was this year’s OPC President’s Award recipient. He delivered a speech that was unscripted and incredibly funny, telling two stories about his time at CNN and delivering a playful jab at Rupert Murdoch. When the government was deciding which network would have access to cover the first Gulf War, it chose CNN. “We didn’t do anything to compromise our principles to do it,” he said. “Unlike Murdoch, I’m not being indicted for anything. I never have been, and never will.”

Turner ended his speech with a rallying cry of support to guests. “Of all the things I’ve done in my life -- I’ve won the World Series, won America’s Cup and been sportsman and yachts and philanthropist of the year -- the thing I love the most and still love most is journalism. In my heart, I’m with you. God bless you all.”

For photos of the parties and winners and videos of speeches, go to opcofamerica.org.
**OPC SCHOLARS**

Hannah Rappleye and Laura Rena Murray, 2011 OPC Foundation scholars, were finalists in the student division of the 2011 Investigative Reporters and Editors Awards. Rappleye was recognized along with other CUNY Graduate School of Journalism students for their investigation of a Massachusetts school that uses electroshock therapy, among other treatments, and relies on public funds. Murray’s article, *The High Price of Looking Like a Woman*, ran in *The New York Times* and covered the transgender community’s use of illegal silicone injections. The awards, given since 1979, recognize outstanding watchdog journalism.

Reports for Al Jazeera English and on Twitter by Rawya Rageh, a 2006 OPC Foundation scholar, was named one of the all-time top 50 news stories produced by Columbia Journalism School graduates. The list, which is to grow to 100 stories, is part of the school’s Centennial Celebration. Rageh was in Cairo’s Tahrir Square for the dramatic protests that toppled Hosni Mubarak and marked the historic bloom of the Arab Spring.

**WINNERS**

Eynulla Fatullayev, a newspaper editor whose four-year imprisonment in Azerbaijan drew international notice, was named the 2012 laureate of the UNESCO Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize. The prize, awarded May 3 on World Press Freedom Day, is given for work “defending or promoting freedom of expression anywhere in the world, especially if this action puts the individual’s life at risk.” Fatullayev, who had been editor-in-chief of the Russian-language weekly *Realnyy Azerbaijan* and the Azerbaijani-language daily *Gündalik Azarbaycan*, was jailed in 2007 on charges of defamation and terrorism. In 2009, while imprisoned, he won the Amnesty International Media Award for Journalism Under Threat and the CPJ’s International Press Freedom Award. The European Court of Human Rights ruled in 2010 he should be released, which he was last year.

Eskinder Nega, an imprisoned Ethiopian journalist and blogger, was honored May 1 with the PEN/Barbara Goldsmith Freedom to Write Award. Nega was arrested in 2011 under sweeping anti-terrorism laws, which PEN says criminalize any reporting deemed to “encourage” or “provide moral support” to causes the government terms “terrorist.” He was found guilty January 23 and could be sentenced to death. In April, 20 journalists recognized as World Press Freedom Heroes by the International Press Institute condemned the imprisonment of Nega and other journalists on terrorism charges, and called for their immediate release. His wife, Serkalem Fasil, a journalist who was jailed with her husband in 2005, accepted the award. Nega has been banned from journalism in Ethiopia but has continued to speak out and write.

Abigail Pesta, an OPC member and editorial director of Women in the World for *Newsweek/The Daily Beast*, won two journalism awards in April for “The Accidental Sex Offender,” a report she wrote for *Marie Claire* about a man placed on the Texas sex-offender registry for having sex with his high-school sweetheart. The piece won third-place for magazine reporting in the National Headliner Awards and a PASS Award from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency. It is a finalist for magazine investigative reporting in the Deadline Club Awards, which will be announced June 4.

Sophia Tewa, who helped edit *Dateline* magazine, won Best Documentary in the Winter 2012 Los Angeles Cinema Festival for “The People the Rain Forgot,” which examines climate change in the agricultural areas of northern Kenya. She has worked with CNN and CBS and teaches multimedia production at the Meridian, Lehman College’s student news site.

IPI announced the 14 winners of its 2012 News Innovation Contest, sponsored by Google which provided more than $1.7 million to enhance online journalism and innovation via news platforms and training across Europe, Africa and the Middle East. The winners are: Mandara Media Foundation, digital media training in Upper Egypt; Media Trust, citizen photojournalism in the United Kingdom; AFP Foundation, fact-checking websites in South Africa and training future journalists in fact-checking; Reporters for Interactive, Collaborative and Specialized Information, mobile reporting in Italy; IREX, workshops and how-to videos for journalists in Tunisia; Meedan, collaborative fact checking in the Middle East; The Poynter Institute, train-
ing in Egypt; Journalism++, news platform in Cameroon; Medialynx, stories behind the news in the Netherlands; Poverty Alleviation Network & Self Dependence Initiative, new tools for storytelling in Nigeria; Mediacentar Sarajevo, new media and data journalism in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Journalism Development Network/Organised Crime and Corruption Reporting Project, visual investigative scenarios in Romania and Balkan countries; AWAN/Arab Media Consultants, digital journalism training boot camp in Jordan; and the Guardian, peer-based funding platform for storytellers in the United Kingdom.

PRESS FREEDOM

BEIJING: Melissa Chan, an OPC member and Al-Jazeera’s sole English-language reporter in China, was effectively expelled from China on May 7 after officials denied a usually routine request to renew her journalist visa. China also refused to allow another correspondent to replace her, forcing Al-Jazeera to close the China news operations of its English-language channel. It was China’s first expulsion of an accredited journalist since 1998 and the reasons were unclear. Chan has returned to the United States where she will be a Knight Journalism Fellow at Stanford for the 2012-13 academic year.

Chan, who had reported from China since 2007, won the 2001 Alexander Kendrick Scholarship from the OPC Foundation and is a board member of the Foreign Correspondents’ Club of China.

NEW YORK: The Committee to Protect Journalists on April 26 introduced online and electronic book formats of the Journalist Security Guide to guide reporters on how to reduce the dangers of reporting in hostile environments that can range from “from sleepy small towns to international war zones.” In the guide, Danny O’Brien, CPJ’s Internet advocacy coordinator, and Frank Smyth, senior security consultant, discuss threats and outline steps to increase safety. Journalists including Sebastian Junger, Umar Cheema and Carolyn Cole also provided advice. Topics include digital information, armed conflict, organized crime and the risk of sexual violence. To keep information current, CPJ also launched the Journalist Security Blog. Links to the guide and blog can be found on cpj.org.

MOGADISHU, Somalia: Awke Abdullahi Ali, director of the Voice of Peace radio station, was released April 28 by authorities of the semi-autonomous region of Puntland after being held without charges for 57 days. Fellow journalists said Ali was freed because his health had declined while in detention and that as he left prison, he said he would never abandon his commitment as a journalist.

ABUJA, Nigeria: Nine people were killed April 26 in two bombings targeting Nigerian newspapers. In Abuja, a suicide bomber killed himself, four others and wounded dozens when he drove a jeep carrying explosives into the building containing the printing press of ThisDay, an influential, privately owned newspaper. At the same time, a car

(Continued From Page 7)
laden with explosives was stopped as it approached a building in Kaduna that houses the regional offices of ThisDay, The Moment and The Daily Sun. One of the two men in the car got out and detonated a bomb that killed at least four people and wounded about 20 others. No journalists were killed in either attack.

WASHINGTON D.C.: Press freedom organizations welcomed an executive order President Barack Obama signed on April 23 imposing new sanctions for providing the Syrian and Iranian regimes with “information and communications technology that facilitates computer or network disruption, monitoring, or tracking that could assist in or enable grave rights abuses.” The sanctions, which include financial penalties and bans on entering the United States, addressed the use of mobile phone tracking and Internet surveillance in Syria and Iran to identify dissidents, human right activists and citizen journalists.

PODGORICA, Montenegro: Petar Komnenic was sentenced April 18 to four months in prison on a libel charge for reporting in 2007 that judges had been illegally placed under surveillance. He was convicted in February 2011 and ordered to pay a fine or be jailed for four months. He appealed. A second ruling changed the sentence to community service but a higher court reinstated the prison term. Komnenic is an editor with Podgorica-based TV Vijesti and works as a stringer for RFE/RL and Reuters. Montenegro is a candidate to join the European Union, which has expressed concerns over the case.

URALSK, Kazakhstan: Five men attacked reporter Lukpan Akhmedyarov near his home April 17, stabbing him eight times. Akhmedyarov, who is known for his critical views of the authorities and participation in opposition campaigns, had recently received threats warning him to halt his involvement in organizing antigovernment protests, said Tamara Yeslyamova, his editor at Uralskaya Nedelya.

ABIDJAN, Côte d’Ivoire: Demonstrations here and in Paris on April 16 marked the eighth anniversary of the abduction of Guy-André Kieffer, a Franco-Canadian journalist last seen at a shopping center parking lot in Abidjan. RSF, which has helped Kieffer’s family since the 2004 disappearance, said: “The investigation is not progressing quickly enough and the changes since last year have not met our expectations.”

TEHRAN: Iranian officials indefinitely suspended the press credentials of Reuters’ entire staff in Iran on March 29 after a February 16 video report characterized Iranian women trained in martial art as assassins. The video’s original title “Thousands of female Ninjas train as Iran’s assassins” was changed 10 days later and the video did not make the same assertion. “I didn’t see factual errors in the story,” Stephen J. Adler, editor-in-chief of Reuters, told The New York Times. “The headline was really bad, and... we changed it.” He said that the error was not malicious.

NEW YORK: The OPC Freedom of the Press Committee described Turkey as the world’s leading jailer of journalists in an April 17 letter to Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, the country’s prime minister. Jeremy Main and Larry Martz wrote that while the end of the year-long detention of Ahmet Şık and Nedim Şener, winner of the 2010 IPI’s World Press Freedom Hero Award was good news, “it is altogether shocking that some 100 journalists are still being held in prison in Turkey.” The letter concluded: “As the events of the Arab Spring have shown, the Internet and social media will get out the news even when the formal press is muzzled.”

NEW YORK: After Rogelio Paleaz, a Bolivian journalist who wrote about government corruption, was sentenced in March to 30

(Continued on Page 10)
Few Convictions, Little Justice for Murders
by Susan Kille

Appalling stories about journalists being killed appear each month in the Bulletin. The Committee to Protect Journalists made clear in April that the horror continues beyond the deaths when it updated its Impunity Index, which calculates unsolved journalist murders as a percentage of a country’s population. Iraq, Somalia and the Philippines have the top three positions, with Iraq’s rate more than double Somalia and Somalia’s twice that of the Philippines. Also on the list, which covers nations with five or more unsolved cases between 2002 and 2011 are in order: Sri Lanka, Colombia, Nepal, Afghanistan, Mexico, Russia, Pakistan, Brazil and India, with Mexico and Pakistan moving higher this year.

The Mexican Senate approved a constitutional amendment in March that makes attacks on the press a federal offense, taking over jurisdiction from local authorities who have proven ineffective or corrupt or both in ending widespread impunity for crimes against journalists. The amendment, which still must be ratified by states, drew a letter of support from OPC’s Freedom of the Press Committee. But in the same month, UNESCO’s 28th biennial session failed to endorse a plan to strengthen international efforts to fight impunity after the proposal drew objections from three countries listed above — Pakistan, Brazil and India.

On World Press Freedom Day on May 3, Reporters Without Borders updated its Predators of Freedom of Information list and reported 21 journalists and six netizens and citizen journalists were killed since the start of 2012. That is a pace of one death every six days. Netizens, meaning people who use the Internet to advance free speech, and citizen journalists are increasingly valuable news sources in areas where governments don’t want the outside world looking on. Also on May 3, after RSF released those numbers, the dismembered bodies of three Mexican photojournalists, Gabriel Hugé, Guillermo Luna Varela and Esteban Rodríguez, were found in Veracruz, a hotbed of organized crime where seven journalists were murdered in the last year and a half.

Two recent assassinations of law enforcement officials underscore the challenge of combating impunity. On April 14, César Santos Magalhães, who was investigating the murder of Brazilian journalist Paulo Rocaro, was shot 13 times by gunmen on a motorcycle. Rocaro, who worked in Ponta Pora along Brazil’s volatile border with Paraguay, died in a similar fashion in February. In Peru, prosecutor Luis Sánchez Colona, assigned to investigate the murder of journalist Pedro Flores Silva, was shot six times as he left for work on April 16 in Nuevo Chimbote. Silva was gunned down in September 2011, not long after publishing a corruption investigation into a local mayor.

Even convictions can leave questions. John Alexander Jaramillo, 24, was sentenced March 31 in Colombia to 21 years in jail for the March 15 murder of Argemiro Cárdenas Agudelo, a community radio journalist in Dosquebradas. Jaramillo confessed three days after the killing, saying he was paid 1 million pesos — about $566 — for the murder but claimed not to know the identity of his victim, the head of Metro Rádio Estéreo and the town’s former mayor. While noting the speed of the conviction, RSF said it could not be satisfied when a verdict does not reveal the motive.

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friend when a man entered, walked to the bathroom and as he left, shot Sá six times before fleecing with a motorcyclist waiting outside. Sá, 42, wrote about politics and corruption for the local newspaper O Estado do Maranhão and on his personal blog, Blog do Décio. Kevin McDermott and Larry Martz of OPC’s Freedom of the Press Committee wrote Brazilian President Dilma Vana Roussef noting that her country leads Latin America in the murder of reporters this year and saying: “Sá’s colleagues, not only in Brazil, but around the world, have been driven almost to despair by the seeming impunity with which these killings are accomplished.”

A well-known Honduran television presenter, his uncle and his bodyguard were killed April 21 when they came under fire while leaving the studios of Maya TV in Tegucigalpa. Several reports suggested that Noel Alexander Valladares, 28, popularly known as “El Tecolote” (“The Owl”), saved the life of his wife and co-presenter, Nelly Yorleny Pavón, by covering her with his body when shots broke out.

The body of Murtaza Razvi, the senior editor and head of magazines at Dawn Media Group, was found April 17 in a friend’s apartment in Karachi. His body bore torture marks, his hands were tied and he was strangled, according to the English-language daily Dawn. Razvi, a columnist and political analyst, is the author of the 2009 book Musharraf: The Years in Power, which detailed the rise and fall of the former president of Pakistan. Local journalists told CPJ that the motive of the murder was unclear.

In Syria, at least four journalists and citizen journalists were killed in April. Sameer Shalab al-Sham and Ahmad Abd Fakhriya died on April 14 in Homs and Damascus, respectively, according to the Syrian Centre for Media and Freedom of Expression. Fakhriya, 35, was on his way to film Syrian army troops, when he was shot dead. Al-Sham, a 26-year-old working for the Syria News Network, died after a mortar hit the building where he was filming. Alaa Al-Din Hassan Al-Douri, 44, was wounded at a roadblock and then three days later on April 18 his body, showing signs of torture, was handed over to his family in Hama province. Khaled Mahmoud Kabibisho, 44, was held for questioning in Idlib and then executed on April 17; media reports said that his head was crushed by a tank.

Three recent journalists’ deaths were attributed to Syrian border forces. Ali Shaaban, a cameraman working for the Lebanese TV station Al-Jadeed, died April 10 and two colleagues were injured when their car came under heavy fire while in northern Lebanon near the border. Walid Blidi and Nassim Terreri, Algerian journalists with British passports, were shot dead March 30 when they returned to collect their equipment after an attack by Syrian forces on a group of about 50 people trying to enter Syria at Darkush on the border.

Idion Layao, a former radio journalist in the Philippines who became a village council chairman was killed in Davao on April 8. He was on his way home with a relative in a car, when he was shot by two unidentified men on a motorcycle. He was hit twice in the neck. According to the Sun Star Davao newspaper, police suspect the motive was related to politics or a grudge linked to his previous work as a radio journalist.

Chuks Ogu, 39, a cameraman in Benin City in Nigeria, was killed by gunmen April 12 at the home of a couple whose wedding he had been filming. Ogu worked as a journalist for the privately owned Independent Television. The motive was unclear but nothing was stolen from the couple’s home, according to a report in the Daily Trust.

A gunman killed Mahad Salad Adan, a radio reporter in Somalia and a correspondent for the Shabelle Media Network, April 5 near his home in Beledweyne, a stronghold of the al-Qaeda-affiliated militant group al-Shabaab until Somali government forces captured the town last year. He is the fourth journalist killed in Somalia in 2012 and the fifth in the last five months. Abdimalik Youssuf Muhammud, chairman of Shabelle Media, expressed frustration about impunity in crimes against journalists. He said a cameraman for Shabelle was among 10 journalists seriously wounded in the April 4 bombing at the reopening of the Somali National Theatre.

Yadav Poudel, 39, a Nepalese journalist, was found dead April 3 outside a Birtamod hotel where he had been researching an article on prostitution. He was a correspondent for Avenues TV and the Rajdhani National Daily, as well as the executive editor of New Mechi Times, a daily in Birtamod. News reports said doctors suspected he was beaten and thrown from the hotel’s roof. A letter to Baburam Bhattarai, Nepal prime minister, from OPC’s Freedom of the Press Committee urged “your government to make a full investigation of the attack and prosecute the perpetrators” and noted that according to IPI, “18 other journalists have died in Nepal in the past decade, most of them murdered, and many of those crimes remain unsolved.”

Kamiran Salaheddin, a news presenter for the Salaheddin chan-
nel in Iraq, was killed April 2 when a bomb attached to his car exploded. Salaheddin was head of the Journalists’ Union in Tikrit, reports say.

Leiron Kogoya, a journalist with the newspapers Pasific Post and Papua Pos Nabire, died April 8 when gunmen attacked a commercial flight landing at Mulia airport in Indonesian Papua. A bullet pierced Kogoya’s neck, killing him. Although Kogoya did not appear to be a target, his death illustrates the danger of working in conflict areas. The Southeast Asian Press Alliance said at least two journalists were killed in Papua in 2011.

Jesús Martínez Orozco, 42, a community radio reporter in a small Colombian city near the Caribbean coast, was gunned down April 1. News reports said Orozo was on his way to visit a friend when he was overtaken by a motorcycle whose passenger fired three shots at him.

Ahmed Ismail Hussain, a Bahraini citizen journalist who was shot while filming a protest in the village of Salmbad, died March 31. Witnesses said he was filming security forces using tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse protesters and then, occupants of two civilian vehicles fired live ammunition at the demonstration. Hussain regularly filmed demonstrations, documenting abuses by police who have cracked down on anti-government protest since February 2011.

UPDATES

PARIS: At press time, Roméo Langlois, a freelance correspondent for France 24 TV and Le Figaro, had been held by Farc rebels in Colombia since an April 28 clash between Farc and government forces while the International Red Cross and others attempted to negotiate a release. Langlois, 35, was making a documentary on drug trafficking and had accompanied soldiers on a mission to destroy Farc cocaine farms. The rebels called Langlois a prisoner of war. His kidnapping was condemned around the world.

WASHINGTON D.C.: David A. Andelman, OPC president and editor-in-chief of World Policy Journal, and Arlene Getz, an OPC Third Vice President and editor-in-charge, media at Thomson Reuters, are among 12 senior journalists selected by the International Reporting Project to visit Saudi Arabia May 5 through 18. Each year, the IRP selects two groups of “Gatekeeper Editors” to travel to a country or region to explore critical global issues and improve international coverage.

NEW YORK: The OPC Admissions Committee, under the chairmanship of George Bookman, has added two new OPC members to the committee that evaluates all applications for membership. Robert Nickelsberg, a photojournalist who has contributed to Time for more than 20 years, and Charles Wallace, a freelance correspondent writing for Institutional Investor, Fortune, Money and the Financial Times will be on the committee with Felice Levin and Linda Holmes. David Fondiller of The Boston Consulting Group has resigned after serving on the committee for 10 years.

Magnum Foundation’s Emergency Fund, which supports photographers committed to documenting social issues, is working with Mother Jones to feature the work of Emergency Fund photographers. Mother Jones will publish 10 photo essays at MotherJones.com or in Mother Jones magazine, reaching a combined audience of 4 million people. “Everybody wins with this unprecedented partnership: Photography supported by the Magnum Foundation gains an expanded network with a widely respected venue and we get to share extraordinary photo essays with our readers,” said Tim J. Luddy Mother Jones creative director.

PRETORIA: Yutaka Yoshizawa, an OPC member since 1995, has moved here with his wife, Fumiko, and their son as he begins his appointment as ambassador of Japan to the Republic of South Africa. From 2008 until his new position began in March, he had been ambassador to Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Yoshizawa joined the OPC while stationed in New York.

VIENNA: The IPI in April announced the promotion of Anthony Mills, a former CNN correspondent in Lebanon, to acting deputy director. Barbara Trioni was named Press Freedom manager and Bill Blake became manager of Communications and Philanthropic Enterprise.

PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Roy Essoyan, the reporter who in 1958 exposed the Sino-Soviet split, died March 22 at his home in Hawaii. He was 92. He was born in Japan after his refugee family, originally from Armenia, landed there in 1919 after fleeing Vladivostok and the Russian revolution. The family moved to Shanghai in 1932.

He was working at the English-language Shanghai Times and had just been married on December 5, 1941 when the paper called him to work on Dec. 8, saying war had begun. He hung up, thinking it was a joke. In 1945, he was hired by the AP in Shanghai and was later assigned to Hawaii, where he became
a U.S. citizen. In 1955, he joined AP’s Moscow bureau at the height of the Cold War and a time of intense censorship. He was expelled in 1958 after slipping past censors the news that a serious breach had developed between the USSR and Mao Tse-tung’s China.

In February 1960, the Soviet Premier spotted Essoyan at a press conference in Indonesia and called him to the stage. Khrushchev pointed to Essoyan’s baseball cap, saying he was baffled that Americans wear such “silly beanies.” Essoyan responded by playfully putting the cap on Krushchev’s head — a moment captured by photographers and published worldwide. Based in Hong Kong after Moscow, Essoyan covered the early days of the Vietnam War. After a brief stint in Cairo, he was named AP’s chief of Middle East operations in Beirut in 1965 and became its chief of North Asia services, based in Tokyo, in 1973. He retired in 1985.

The family of Al Kaff, an OPC member since 1962 and previous author of this column, have sent along a photo of the VA marker recently placed over his grave in Mount Vernon Cemetery in Atchison, Kansas. Kaff, 91, died October 25, 2011.

Arthur Kaff, Al’s son, said his mother, Diana, is planning to sell the condo in Fairfield, Connecticut, where she lived with Al, and move into an independent living facility for seniors in Maryland. Arthur sent thanks for all “the OPC did to remember my dad.”

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**Mike Wallace, a Moment or Two**

by Allan Dodds Frank

Mike Wallace was a great friend and supporter of the Overseas Press Club, although next to his CBS colleagues Walter Cronkite and Andy Rooney, he was a relative newcomer. Wallace, already at the peak of his game when he joined the club in 1979, served as the awards presenter at the OPC dinners in 1984, 1992 and 2000. In 1998, Don Hewitt, Wallace and the rest of the “60 Minutes” team jointly received the President’s Award from OPC President John Corporon.

As an aspiring print and broadcast reporter, I studied Wallace’s every nuance, every inflection, every tick, every technique. Every story he did was a seminar in real time. While I loved the “60 Minutes” tribute to him, his single most instructive story did not make the cut, almost certainly because the highlight would have been too long. The story was his 1969 interview of Clement Haynsworth, a federal appeals court judge in South Carolina nominated to the Supreme Court by Richard Nixon. Haynsworth had been accused of being a segregationist and had not reacted to the accusation in public before sitting down with Wallace. Wallace asked whether the accusation was true and Haynsworth did not answer.

Instead of moving on to another question, Wallace just sat there. Squirming and sweating, Haynsworth tortured himself with silence until he could not stand it anymore and blurted out an answer that proved to be disastrous. That moment taught me that skillful listening is a reporter’s tool, important for content and a critical inducement to get a reluctant, nervous interviewee to talk.

Finally, a story I told in 2000 when as OPC Awards chairman I introduced Wallace. I met him in April 1989 at a black tie reception at Sardi’s honoring the first 30 women, including Helen Hayes, admitted to the Players Club, a club focused on the theater and arts, which also had a category for journalists. I was newly married and the brand new business investigative correspondent at ABC News, which was at its peak under Roone Arledge.

Of more than 100 correspondents, only Wallace’s son Chris was newer to the ABC payroll than I was. So I introduced myself to the great Mike Wallace, as the son of a fellow University of Michigan graduate, then mentioning that his son Chris and I had known each other in Washington.

Wallace asked me who hired me. Now, an old network vet had advised me, without exception, to answer that question by saying “Roone,” but to Wallace I did not. In fact, I had never gotten to Roone. My hiring had been approved by his right hand man, a skilled political operative and Kennedy family confidante named David Burke, the executive vice president of ABC News. A month after hiring me in June of 1988, Burke became the new President of CBS News, and, at least nominally, Mike Wallace’s new boss.

In his inimitable fashion, Wallace hit me with a question I had never been asked: “What did Burke tell you he wants you to do?” I could not help myself: “He told me he wants me to beat the Supp-Hose (support stockings for old men with varicose veins) off Mike Wallace.”

In a flash, Wallace grabbed me by the tuxedo lapels and yanked my face close to his. All the celebrities in the room went silent. Then he gave me a big fat wet kiss on the lips and laughed.
when it issued one of several subpoenas for Risen, argued seeking the reporter’s possible testimony was one of the few options the Justice Department felt it had in the case against Jeffrey Sterling, a former CIA officer who is accused of leaking details about efforts to sabotage the Iranian nuclear program.

“That is the hardest question, raising difficult questions that are unsettled in court,” Miller said, as Risen sat quietly to his left. “What happens is that too many people equate investigating leaks with (going after) whistleblowers and the press.” He said the substance of the leaks also get investigated, but indictments don’t always follow. If there’s no prosecution of wrongdoers, Miller said, people jump to the conclusion that the decision was political — which, he said, doesn’t happen “in the vast majority of cases.” But Bamford argued that politics played a part “in all these cases.”

Miller said prosecution of leaks harmful to national security — including the sabotaging of Iranian nuclear policy and the exposure of a covert CIA operative — is justified. “What is the government to do, look the other way?” The Justice Department actually decides not to prosecute in most cases, he said, because the leaks are legitimate whistleblowers trying to expose wrongdoing. The leaker who blew the government’s warrantless wiretapping program “on the cover of Newsweek” was never taken to court, Miller said. But in blatant cases where national security is harmed, the government “has to move” against them.

“Is the system broken?” Andelman asked. “It’s a joke, and it’s always been a joke,” Risen answered. Miller conceded that “We do, without doubt, over-classify, and we classify things that shouldn’t be.” Few in the government actually know what has been released, Bamford argued, and classification is meaningless. Miller conceded that “you could argue” that Drake was genuinely trying to expose a bad government program. He also noted that two of Risen’s subpoenas have been thrown out by Federal judges, though the government is appealing those decisions. But he defended the prosecution of Risen’s alleged source, Sterling, and the military case against Pvt. Bradley Manning, the reported source of last year’s massive WikiLeaks document dump.

Bamford referred to the case of a former NSA top official, Tom Drake, who was in the audience, who faced 35 years in prison on 10 felony counts for telling a reporter that an NSA software monitor program was both intrusive on privacy and ineffective. Bamford showed that the alleged secrets Drake told were actually unclassified, and the case was settled as a misdemeanor with no penalty. But the judge in the case berated the Justice Department for putting Drake “through hell for four years” of fighting the charges.

In part, Bamford said, one goal of filing charges was to create “a chilling effect” on other potential whistle-blowers. Drake agreed, adding that the tactic is working. “What you have is the expansion of the national security state,” he said, warning that what has so far been exposed about unconstitutional actions including torture, rendition of suspects, wiretaps without warrants and data mining is “the tip of the iceberg.”

Both Drake and Bamford argued that there is a double standard by the government, with leakers facing jail and no prosecution of those who actually torture, eavesdrop without warrants or cooperate with government intrusions they know are illegal. Miller conceded that “you could argue” that Drake was genuinely trying to expose a bad government program. He also noted that two of Risen’s subpoenas have been thrown out by Federal judges, though the government is appealing those decisions. But he defended the prosecution of Risen’s alleged source, Sterling, and the military case against Pvt. Bradley Manning, the reported source of last year’s massive WikiLeaks document dump.

Risen said an unspoken government agreement to tolerate most leaks ended after the 2001 attacks, and that government actions have soared since, with the Obama administration much more aggressive than any other administration in history. But in the new reality of an unprecedented kind of war, that puts reporters in the cross-hairs. “If you are a war correspondent on terror,” Risen said. “Everything...is secret.”

The government’s appeal in Risen’s case will be argued May 18. “They said there is no reporter’s privilege,” Risen said. “They want the court to rule on the issue of a reporter’s privilege in a criminal case. It would give it a broad impact.”

He said the goal of terrorism is to upset a society and force changes in it, and that has been the real consequence of the assault on leaks and the media. “The U.S. has been transformed by our fears,” Risen said. “Do you want to give up democracy to fight terrorism? That’s what this is really all about.”
Tragedy Inspires Training Program for Journalists

by Susan Kille

Twenty-four freelance journalists from places ranging from Cairo to Brooklyn convened in the Bronx April 19 for the debut class of Reporters Instructor in Saving Colleagues, a non-profit founded by Sebastian Junger after the death of his friend and colleague Tim Hetherington.

Photos of Hetherington and Chris Hondros sat between four glowing candles and a vase of flowers in the gallery of the Bronx Documentary Center, where the three-day course took place. The two acclaimed war photojournalists died one year earlier, April 20, 2011, after they were hit during a mortar and grenade attack in Misrata, Libya. Hondros was mortally wounded. Shrapnel cut Hetherington’s femoral artery, a serious injury but one where fast action could have kept him alive until he reached a doctor. Hetherington, however, bled out and died in the back of a pickup truck on the way to a hospital.

Junger opened the session by saying he had just turned 50 and had reported on wars for almost 20 years but “since Tim Hetherington died, I’ve stopped.” Hetherington was “the first person I was really close to who was killed,” he said. Their history includes a year-long Vanity Fair assignment on tour with a platoon in the Korengal Valley in Afghanistan that resulted in their 2010 Oscar-nominated documentary “Restrepo.”

Junger said Hetherington’s death was a “wake-up call” and “made me think of other ways I could contribute to journalism.”

He described how a medic at Hetherington’s funeral told him his friend could have lived. “All that had to be done was to slow down the bleeding,” he said. RISC grew from that conversation. Junger secured funding to hold three sessions this year to train freelance journalists, the group on the frontline of war reporting, to treat battlefield injuries so that “someone else in the future will be savable.”

Finding a venue for the first class was not a problem. Michael Kamber, a close friend of Hetherington, was at the funeral with Junger. Kamber is a photojournalist who after years of covering wars for The New York Times bought an abandoned historic building in the South Bronx and created the Bronx Documentary Center. The center’s first exhibition last October came from the last rolls of film Hetherington shot.

The training included, but went far beyond, first aid. The focus was to assess and manage emergencies and to safeguard what’s most important – getting oxygen to cells through breathing, heartbeats and blood and then, getting the victim to medical care. Each participant received a combat medical kit that they are expected to carry into war zones. Using medical dummies, fake blood, each other’s bodies and resources in that medical kit, the journalists addressed the leading causes of preventable battlefield deaths: hemorrhages, blocked airways and collapsed lungs. It was a course in reality, not ideals. Some people can’t be saved; focus on those who can. Your first obligation is to yourself, your partners, the public and then, to the patient. Battlefield conditions were simulated on the final day.

Wilderness Medical Associates International, a group specializing in remote medicine with the motto “Face any challenge, anywhere,” spent months developing a curriculum tailored for war zones.

RISC received funding to provide participants free training and accommodations from news agencies. The group’s website acknowledges ABC, CNN, National Geographic, Vanity Fair, Getty Images, Condé Nast, CPJ and the Chris Hondros Fund.

RISC plans a fall training session in London and a winter one in Beirut. The 24 original slots filled quickly with a long waiting list. Participants must have experience in war zones to be eligible.

Junger and Hetherington shared in the 2007 OPC David Kaplan Award for an ABC News-Nightline report from the Korengal Valley. They discussed “Restrepo” and books each recently had published during an OPC book night in November 2010. Hetherington died eight days before he was to serve as co-presenter at last year’s OPC Awards ceremony and receive a citation for his own photography under fire in Afghanistan.
New Books

NORTH AMERICA

APRIL 20 MARKED THE 2ND anniversary of the Macondo blowout, also known as the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, and the worst environmental disaster in U.S. history. One of the first books out on the disaster remains one of the best.

In Too Deep: BP and the Drilling Race That Took it Down by Stanley Reed and Alison Fitzgerald, was published by Bloomberg Press in 2011 but not acknowledged in the Bulletin. The book remains an insightful and recommended read.

Reed, an OPC member who covered BP for BusinessWeek and Bloomberg for more than 10 years, and Fitzgerald, who was then a colleague at Bloomberg, make clear their insight into the international oil industry. While serving for 14 years as the London Bureau chief for BusinessWeek, Reed came to know the three BP CEOs that appear in the book and he spent time with the company’s Gulf of Mexi-

co team less than a year before the blowout.

“Even though we came out early, we remain on the money on the specific and broader causes of the accident,” Reed said in an email. “Also as far as I know, no other book offers the inside feel of BP that I was able to give, having covered the company over 10 years.”

Reed is based in London for the International Herald Tribune. Fitzgerald was on the Bloomberg team that won the OPC Malcolm Forbes Award in 2008.

Along the way, he earned more than three dozen national and international awards making documentaries on Confucius, poverty in Latin America, the settlement of the American Southwest and the classic “Hiroshima-Nagasaki, August, 1945.”

Glimcher said he has spent the last year writing and developing the book, which is available at Apple’s iTunes bookstore.

— by Susan Kille

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